

TOXICOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.

The Toxicity of Acetylene. L. Brociner. (*Compt. Rend.*, 1895, cxxi., 773; through *Chem. Zeit. Rep.*, 1895, 416).—Blood dissolves about 0·8 of its volume of acetylene, most of which it loses on exposure to air in the cold, the rest at 60° C., while the whole disappears when placed in a vacuum. Examined with the spectroscope, the solution has no characteristic appearance, resembling rather normal oxygenated blood, and it is reduced by ammonium sulphide in a manner precisely similar to the latter. If there be any compound of acetylene and hæmoglobin, it must be very unstable. Acetylene cannot be considered any more poisonous than other hydrocarbons, such as methane, etc., for animals can survive its action even for many hours, if sufficient oxygen is present, and the atmosphere is renewed at intervals.

F. H. L.

Purification of Sulphuretted Hydrogen by means of Iodine. Z. H. Skraup. (*Zeits. österr. Apoth. Ver.*, 1896, xxxiv., 72; through *Chem. Zeit. Rep.*, 1896, 22.)—

Jacobson and Brunn's process for the removal of arsenic from this reagent, which consists in the employment of iodine, has been investigated by the present author, who finds that so long as not more than about 10 grammes of the gas are used in each test, the purification is sufficiently complete even for legal work. F. H. L.
